



# Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management

Jeff Benoit

# OCRM Vision/Mission

Vision: a national system of people and places that protect and manage coastal and ocean resources and enable others to do the same.

Mission: effectively manage multiple uses of the nation's coastal and ocean resources by:

- protecting and conserving specially-designated areas
- balancing economic, environmental and cultural objectives
- adapting the system to changing conditions and needs
- enabling others to practice coastal stewardship
- promoting science-based resource management decisions
- working with partners at all levels

# OCRM FY 2000 Focus Areas

- *OCRM-wide priorities:*
  - Support ongoing programs (existing and new) in states and sites by providing effective policy and technical support to the field and build the capacity of staff within OCRM to strengthen overall performance of the national management system.
  - Support NOS, NOAA, Federal interagency, and Presidential priority initiatives, in particular through implementation of the Clean Water Action Plan, Coral Reef Initiative, NOS dredging synergy effort, and National Spatial Data Inventory Demonstration Projects, among others.
  - Work with NERRS and NMS field sites to meet their facilities needs for programmatic operations and outreach, while also promoting the use of sustainable design.
- *Customers:* Resource managers, decision makers, and educators in coastal states, territories and tribal communities; local advisory councils; the public; various industries; and the resources.

# OCRM FY 2000 Focus Areas

- **Coastal Zone Management Program:**
  - Expand use of the CAMMP system to improve the effectiveness and capabilities of field partners by providing in-state technical support.
  - Enable communities to balance environment and economic well-being by supporting local planning, addressing obstacles to dredging/dredge material disposal and revitalization of urban waterfronts.
- **National Estuarine Research Reserve System:**
  - Support core elements of the NERRS education program and design "NERRS Coastal Institutes" as a complementary technical training initiative.
  - Enhance the utility of NERRS research and System-wide Monitoring Program through data synthesis and delivery to coastal decision-makers, application of new environmental technology, and integration with other NOS, NOAA and national coastal monitoring programs.
- **Key Partners:** Participating states and localities; NOS offices (OR&R, CSC, NCCOS, SPO, IPO); other Federal agencies (EPA, Interior, Corps of Engineers)

# OCRM FY 2000 Focus Areas

- National Marine Sanctuary Program:
  - Implement marine zoning as a tool for resource protection, including Tortugas 2000 and management plan reviews.
  - Improve understanding of sanctuary resources by conducting site characterizations through the Sustainable Seas Expeditions.
- Key partners: State agencies; NGOs (NGO Roundtable); National Geographic Society; volunteer networks; NOS' NCCOS & SPO; NMFS; U.S. Coast Guard.

# OCRM's Key Messages

- The strength of NOS is capitalizing on an integrated suite of capabilities - science → technology → management.
- OCRM's unique role is applied management - linking science and technological expertise with the managers who rely on that expertise - to address the multitude of natural and cultural resource issues.
- Budget limitations affect the degree to which we can effectively participate in NOS integration efforts and adequately support our partners.